



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide

WHEREAS, 1.5 million men, women and children of Armenian descent were victims of the genocide perpetrated by the Turkish Ottoman Empire in 1915 and thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the United States Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, Sr., stated, "Whatever crimes the most perverted instincts the human mind can devise, and whatever refinements of persecutions and injustice the most debased imagination can conceive, became the daily misfortunes of these devoted people; and, I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this; and the great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915; and the killing of the Armenian people was accomplished by the systematic destruction of churches, schools, libraries, treasures of art, and cultural monuments in an attempt to eliminate all traces of a noble civilization with a history of more than 3,000 years"; and

WHEREAS, the Armenian Genocide has been acknowledged by countries and international bodies such as Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Council of Europe, Cyprus, the European Parliament, France, Great Britain, Greece, Lebanon, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Nations and Uruguay; and

WHEREAS, residents of Rhode Island are highly sensitive to the need for consistently remembering and openly condemning crimes committed against any culture or people to prevent similar atrocities in the future; and

WHEREAS, each year Armenians throughout the world honor those who perished from 1915 to 1923, and all the world's people should commemorate the Armenian Genocide because it stands as an ugly testament to man's inhumanity to man; and

WHEREAS, we must do our best to raise awareness about the Armenian Genocide not only because it is an undeniable chapter of world history, but also because learning more about this unconscionable tragedy will help better understand the necessity of eliminating hatred from our own; and

WHEREAS, in 1948, in the shadow of the Holocaust, the international community responded to Nazi Germany's methodically orchestrated acts of genocide by approving the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; and

WHEREAS, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide confirms that genocide is a crime under international law, defines genocide as certain acts committed with intent to destroy a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, and provides that parties to the Convention undertake to enact domestic legislation to provide effective penalties for persons who are guilty of genocide; and

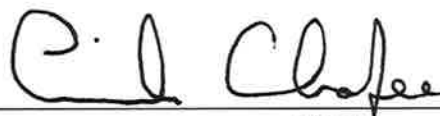
WHEREAS, the United States, under President Harry Truman, stood as the first nation to sign the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of the Genocide Convention Implementation Act marked a principled stand by the United States against the crime of genocide and an important step toward ensuring the lessons of the Holocaust, the Armenian Genocide, and the genocides in Cambodia and Rwanda, among others, will be used to help prevent future genocides; and

WHEREAS, despite the international community's consensus against genocide, as demonstrated by the fact that 133 nations are party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and through other instruments and actions, denial of past instances of genocide continues and many thousands of innocent people continue to be victims of genocide; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2013 as Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this day.

Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 23RD day of April, 2013


Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor




A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Jazz Day

WHEREAS, jazz is an original American art form that affirms the noblest aspirations of our national character, individual discipline, perseverance, and innovation; and

WHEREAS, jazz has produced some of America's leading creative artists and ranks as one of America's greatest exports to the world; and

WHEREAS, jazz has inspired dancers, choreographers, poets, novelists, filmmakers, classical composers, and musicians in many other kinds of music; and

WHEREAS, we honor and recognize the outstanding work that all jazz artists, educators, and enthusiasts present; and

WHEREAS, jazz has spoken eloquently of freedom for people in the United States and abroad, and has become an international language that bridges differences and brings people of all races, ages, and backgrounds together; and


WHEREAS, on April 30, 2013 cities will celebrate Jazz Day and mayors are encouraged to plan jazz related activities and programming; and

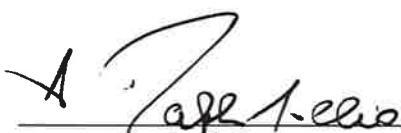
WHEREAS, the United States Conference of Mayors members participated in Jazz Day for the past five years; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim April 30, 2013 as Jazz Day in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this day.



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GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month

WHEREAS, stroke occurs at a rate of 1 in 2700 live births each year and in 12 in 100,000 children per year, with stroke being the sixth leading cause of death in children; and

WHEREAS, between 50 and 85 percent of infants and children who have a Pediatric Stroke will have serious, permanent neurological disabilities, including paralysis, seizures, speech and vision problems, attention, learning and behavioral difficulties, and may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries; and

WHEREAS, the life-long health concerns and treatments resulting from Pediatric Stroke result in a heavy financial and emotional toll on the child, the family, and society; and

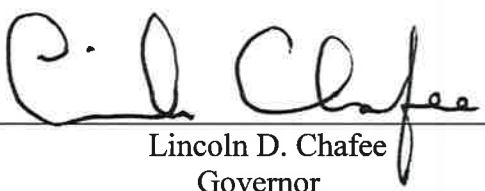
WHEREAS, very little is known about the cause, treatment and prevention of Pediatric Stroke; Pediatric Stroke risk factors, symptoms, prevention efforts, and treatment are often different in children than in adults; only through medical research can effective treatment and prevention strategies for Pediatric Stroke be identified and developed; and

WHEREAS, an early diagnosis and commencement of treatment of Pediatric Stroke greatly improves chances of recovery and prevention of recurrence; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim May, 2013 as Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.



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Arbor Day

WHEREAS, April 26, 2013 marks the one hundred twenty-sixth anniversary of the observance of Arbor Day in Rhode Island which was set aside to commemorate the growing, protecting, and maintaining of trees; and

WHEREAS, our countryside is blessed with a plentiful number and variety of trees – beautifying our landscape, adding a touch of nature to our cities and towns, providing a locale where people can find wholesome recreation, and serving as one of the major building blocks in the development of this nation; and

WHEREAS, our forests and our trees provide us with food to eat, yield paper for the books from which we obtain and share great knowledge, and produce materials from which we build our homes as well as provide us with thousands of other useful products; and

WHEREAS, our forests are the origin of our clear, clean drinking water, serve to purify our air, and hold intact the precious topsoil of our land; and

WHEREAS, we would not enjoy the quiet solitude of the forest glen or the joyous setting of a family picnic were it not for trees; and

WHEREAS, trees are the mightiest creation of the plant kingdom and we should be conscious every day of the year of the vital need to conserve and use wisely this wonderful, renewable resource; and

WHEREAS, it is our duty to plant and maintain trees for future generations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim April 26, 2013 as Arbor Day in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this day.



A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 23RD day of April, 2013

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor



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Mental Health Month

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives, and many are now experiencing significant stress due to current economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong body of research that supports specific tools that all Americans can use to better handle challenges, and protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

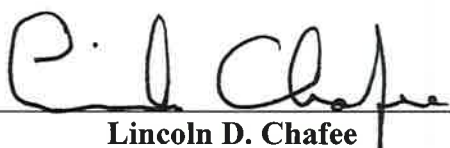
WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and


WHEREAS, the Mental Health Association of Rhode Island, Mental Health America, the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare and their national partners, observe Mental Health Month each May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health issues; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim May, 2013 as Mental Health Month in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to join me recognizing the importance of this month.



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Military Order of Foreign Wars Week

WHEREAS, the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States was founded in 1894 in New York City to preserve the history and deeds of those who served in each of the foreign wars since national independence; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars was established in 1900 and now celebrates its 113th year of continuous service; and


WHEREAS, the Commandery is made up of members who have served in or during all wars and conflicts up to the present and promote military history and traditions; and

WHEREAS, the Rhode Island Commandery has taken the initiative to host the Order's 51st Biennial Convention from May 2-4, 2013; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LINCOLN D. CHAFEE, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim April 28 - May 4, 2013 Military Order of Foreign Wars Week in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this week.



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Public Works Week

WHEREAS, public works infrastructure, facilities and services are of vital importance to sustainable communities and to the health, safety and well-being of the people of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, such facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees from State and local units of Government and the private sector, who are responsible for and must plan, design, build, operate, and maintain the transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential to serve our citizens; and

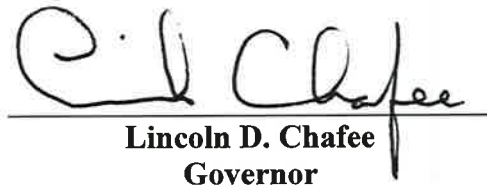
WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders and children in the United States of America to gain knowledge of and to maintain a progressive interest and understand the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and


WHEREAS, the year 2013 marks the 53rd annual Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2013 as Public Works Week in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this week.



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Love Day

WHEREAS, The Love Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization, has established Love Day to encourage love and peace on our planet; and

WHEREAS, we are one humanity on this planet; and

WHEREAS, all life is interconnected and interdependent; and

WHEREAS, love begins with self acceptance and forgiveness; and

WHEREAS, with respect and compassion we embrace diversity; and

WHEREAS, together we make a difference through love; and

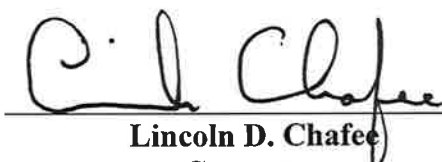
WHEREAS, Love Day will help foster a focus towards "unconditionally loving each other as we love ourself"; and

WHEREAS, Love Day, a day of forgiveness and unconditional love, will act as a model for all of us to follow each and every day; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2013 as Love Day in Rhode Island and invite all state residents to recognize the importance of this day.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 23RD day of April, 2013


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Electrical Safety Month

WHEREAS, hundreds of people die and thousands are injured each year in the United States as a result of electrically-related incidents; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 450 civilian deaths related to electrical home structure fires each year; and

WHEREAS, property damage resulting from home fires caused by electrical failure or malfunction amounts to more than \$1.6 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, more than seven people are electrocuted each week in the United States; and

WHEREAS, following basic electrical safety precautions can help prevent thousands of people from being injured or killed each year; and

WHEREAS, citizens are encouraged to inspect their homes and workplaces for possible electrical hazards; and

WHEREAS, citizens are advised to protect their homes and families with the latest safety technology, such as ground fault circuit interrupters, arc fault circuit interrupters, and tamper resistant receptacles; and

WHEREAS, citizens are urged to install, test and properly maintain an adequate number of smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, the Electrical Safety Foundation International is dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety in the home, school and workplace through education, awareness, and advocacy; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim May, 2013 as Electrical Safety Month in Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.



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